

# HIGH SCHOOL OUTSIDE THE NORM: NORTH POINT ACADEMY

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PASSION

# A BRIEF HISTORY OF HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION

- 1900 High school graduation rate 5%
- 1927 Fuller “School leaving” mentally inferior
- 1950 50%
- Sputnik
- 1960’s, 70’s, 80’s, present day

# TYPES OF ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- Behavior based
- Credit recovery based
- Academic based

# THE AGE OF HIGH STAKES ASSESSMENT

- NCLB
- Accountable graduation rates
- State mandated assessments

# IMPACT ON GRADUATION

- Kentucky 2000\*
- Pushed out
- Pulled out
- Fall out

# WHO NEEDS ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS

## IDENTIFYING AT RISK STUDENTS

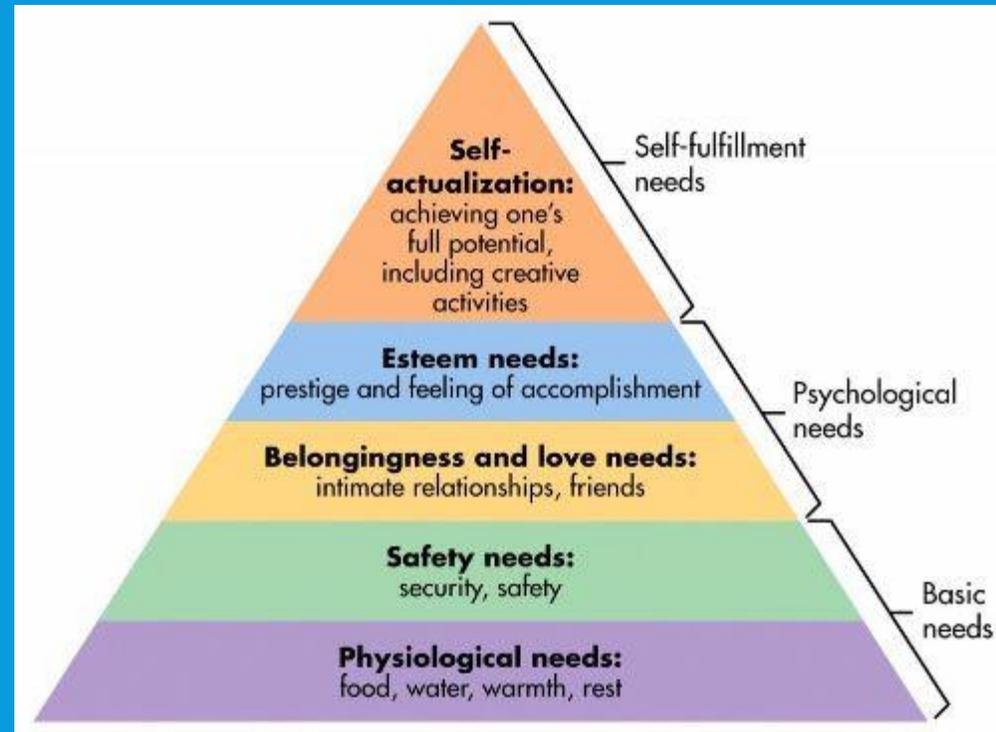
### ACADEMIC INDICATORS

- Fluctuating peer group dynamics
- Failing grades in 2 or more classes\*
- Low scores on assessments
- A mismatch between the students learning needs and curricular expectations can force a student to question the need for an education.

# WHO NEEDS ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS IDENTIFYING AT RISK STUDENTS SOCIAL INDICATORS

- Gender Males are more likely to drop out
- Socio- Economic factors- Poverty\*
- Conduct/behavior problems in school
- Single parent household
- Family history of underachievement- Caution!
- Extrinsically motivated

# WHAT'S MISSING? MASLOW



# COST OF DROPPING OUT

- Condemned to a life of poverty
- 7 times likely to be in prison
- 4 times as likely to be a drug addict or alcoholic
- Greater risk for teen pregnancy
- Greater risk for being a single parent
- Minimal wage positions

# PIKE COUNTY SCHOOLS

## 2000-2007

- Pike County Schools faced a large drop out rate
- Response to Intervention (RTI) and in-house credit recovery had little impact
- Increasing accountability from state assessments and NCLB requirements



## Table 2

### Student attitudes about school

Felt Wanted	Felt picked on	Felt excluded	Trust a teacher	Trust an Admin.
7% yes	81% yes	88% yes	9% yes	4% yes
93% no	19% no	12% no	91% no	96% no

Source: Pike County Schools, 2008

# PIKE COUNTY TEACHER AND ADMINISTRATIVE SURVEYS ABOUT STRUGGLING STUDENTS

- Table 3

▪ Too much time	Disruptive	Lack of effort	Improve Culture
▪ 92% yes	97% yes	99% yes	99% yes
▪ 8% no	3% yes	1% no	1% no

- Would you support a new alternative program for struggling students?

- 99% yes

- 1% no

- Source: Pike County Schools 2008

# NORTH POINT ACADEMY ANOTHER CHOICE FOR PIKE COUNTY STUDENTS

- 2007 Superintendent Roger Wagner and Assistant Superintendent Roger Johnson
- Site visits to Oldham and Bullitt County Schools
- Committee for development
- Staff selection\*
- Professional development\*

# NORTH POINT ACADEMY

## PURPOSE

- Develop a school suited to handle struggling students
- Create a welcoming caring environment
- Create a sense of belonging
- Help students graduate high school

# NORTH POINT ACADEMY OBJECTIVES

- Develop an individualized program to address student needs
- Help students change their negative behavior to positive behaviors
- Provide a positive and structured learning environment
- Reduce the high school drop out rate
- Provide credit recovery for students
- Prepare students for life beyond graduation

# NORTH POINT ACADEMY CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION

- Voluntary program
- Referred by home school
- Failing 2 or more classes\*
- A history of truancy
- Low achievement scores
- No one is forced to come, no one is forced to leave

# NORTH POINT ACADEMY EXPECTATIONS

- No drugs
- No fighting
- No disrespect

# NORTH POINT ACADEMY ACADEMIC OFFERINGS

- Individualized academic programs
- Core courses and electives
- Block schedule
- Counseling
- Credit recovery\*
- Individualized graduation plan

# NORTH POINT ACADEMY STAFFING

- 12-1 teacher to student ratio
- Connections by all staff to students
- Mountain Comprehensive care on site counseling services
- Homeless coordinator on site

# NORTH POINT ACADEMY PROGRAMS

- Financial literacy
- Resume building and development
- College application assistance
- College financial aid assistance
- Workforce development program\*
- Career fair

# NORTH POINT ACADEMY PROGRAMS

- Field trips to colleges, job corps, and companies
- Partnerships with police, fire department, and local businesses that provide interaction with the students
- Clothes washing program

# THE PAYOFF!!! ATTENDANCE RATES PRIOR TO NORTH POINT ACADEMY

- Student Attendance Prior to North Point Academy (2004-05 to 2007-08)

▪ 2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
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▪ 88.1%	88.4%	89.7%	89.2%
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- Source: Pike County Board of Education, 2008

# THE PAYOFF!!!! ATTENDANCE RATES AFTER NORTH POINT ACADEMY

- Student Attendance After Establishing North Point Academy (2009-10 to 2015-16)

▪ 2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
▪ 93.8%	94.2%	94.2%	94.2%	95.1%
▪				
▪ 2014-15	2015-16			
▪ 95.1%	95.2%			

- Source: Pike County Board of Education, 2008

# THE PAYOFF!!! GRADUATION RATES PRIOR TO NORTH POINT ACADEMY

- Graduation Rates prior to North Point Academy

▪ 2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
▪ 81.5%	81.8%	85.8%	84.5%	81.23%

- Source: Pike County Board of Education, 2009

# THE PAYOFF!!! GRADUATION RATES AFTER NORTH POINT ACADEMY

- North Point Academy Graduation Rates

▪ 2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
▪ 80.5%	80.1%	80.4%	89.7%	92.2%

▪ 2014-2015	2015-2016
▪ 96.3%	98.2%

- Source: Pike County Board of Education, 2016

# NORTH POINT ACADEMY

## NEXT STEPS

- Day Treatment facilities will be moved to the North Point Academy campus
- Continued workforce development program, expanding
- Vocational programs
- Housing unit on campus\*

# COMPLIMENTS

- Positive impact on other high schools
- Compliments from field trip visits
- Successful graduation rates
- Improved attendance
- Expansion of programs and initiatives

# CRITICISMS

- Principal has been called a dictator
- Program too easy academically
- Diploma mill
- Some critics have a misconception about the program

# QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS